



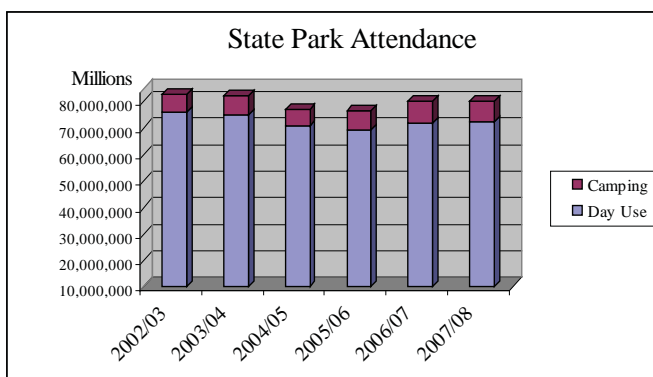
California State Parks

Quick Facts



Parks by the Numbers

- There are 278 classified and unclassified units in the California State Park System in 25 districts, including the seven in the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division.
- Over 1.3 million acres of land are owned or managed by California State Parks (CSP). This is nearly 1.5% of the total area of California.
- Over 8.6 million feet of waterfront are owned by CSP. This includes over 3.4 million feet of lakefront, almost 1.7 million feet (320 miles) of oceanfront, and over 1.7 million feet of river front.
- CSP provides the public with: 13,863 individual and group camp sites, 645 overnight facilities, 7,019 picnic sites, and 4,225 miles of non-motorized trails.
- Over 79.5 million people visited California State Parks in the 2007/08 fiscal year. At 1 oz. of sunscreen per person, that equals over 621,397 gallons of sun protection!
- 3% of park visitors operate off-highway vehicles in state park units each year.
- Top Ten State Parks (2007/2008 Attendance):
 1. Old Town San Diego SHP
 2. Huntington SB
 3. Bolsa Chica SB
 4. San Onofre SB
 5. Sonoma Coast SP
 6. Seacliff SB
 7. Cardiff SB
 8. Oceano Dunes SVRA
 9. Carlsbad SB
 10. New Brighton SB
- Top Attendance by Unit Type (2007/2008 Attendance):
 - State Historic Park—Old Town San Diego 6,490,800
 - State Beach – Huntington 3,769,900
 - State Park – Sonoma Coast 1,554,700
 - State Vehicular Recreation Area – Oceano Dunes 1,405,900
 - State Recreation Area – Folsom Lake 1,381,100
 - State Reserve – Armstrong Redwoods 1,033,000
 - State Historic Monument – Hearst San Simeon 767,800
- Five California State Parks were named to the 2008 Top 100 Family Campgrounds in the U.S. in a survey conducted by Reserve America:
 - Columbia SHP
 - Old Town San Diego SHP
 - Richardson Grove SP
 - Van Damme SP
 - McArthur-Burney Falls Memorial SP





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- A significant portion of California's natural and cultural resources are protected by California State Parks:
 - 93% of the 1.5 million acres of the State Park System is managed for natural resource values.
 - California State Parks is responsible for documentation, preservation and care of 11,008 known prehistoric and historic archeological sites, 3,195 historic buildings, and more than 6 million museum objects, archival documents and specimens.
 - Since 1965 California State Parks' Office of Grants and Local Services has administered over \$3.2 billion in local assistance grants, including funds approved by the passage of Park Bond Acts, and federal monies such as the Land and Water Conservation Fund.
- The Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Division has administered \$331.3 million in off-highway vehicle grant funds.
- California State Parks is authorized to employ 1,816 permanent staff and approximately 729 seasonal staff to administer, protect, operate and maintain the State Park System.
- Nearly 15,411 volunteers contributed 984,538 hours to the department in 2007/08. Volunteers staff visitor centers, maintain trails, serve as camp hosts, present interpretive (educational) programs and special events, and do much more.
- California State Parks' Concessions Program includes approximately 163 concession contracts, including 52 operating agreements and 24 non-profit concessionaires as of 2007/08.
- California State Parks' 2008-2009 budget totals \$464 Million. The largest sources for these funds are:
 - State's General Fund (~\$151 million)
 - State Parks and Recreation Fund (~\$122 million)
- Interpretive (educational) programs add to the appreciation and understanding of the natural and cultural resources preserved in California State Parks:
 - In 2003/04*, 3.15 million visitors enjoyed guided hikes, tours, talks and demonstrations.
 - In 2003/04*, approximately 535,000 school children attended formal interpretive programs in state parks.
 - Young visitors also participate in programs designed specifically for them, such as the Junior Rangers and Junior Lifeguards.

* The latest data available

Last updated 12/07/2009.

